

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the Legislative Council to assign and direct an interim or statutory committee to study issues pertaining to the imposition of the death penalty on mentally ill individuals.

ROGERS, STEELE

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



Introduced

First Regular Session 115th General Assembly (2007)

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. _____

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the Legislative Council to assign and direct an interim or statutory committee to study issues pertaining to the imposition of the death penalty on mentally ill individuals.

Whereas, Mental illness does not preclude the imposition of the death penalty in the State of Indiana;

Whereas, Various aspects of the death penalty continue to evoke constitutional scrutiny in the highest courts of this state and country;

Whereas, The issue of mental illness and the death penalty is an increasingly active topic of discussion in legislatures and courts throughout the United States;

Whereas, Senator Anita Bowser has been a tireless champion of civil liberties and the rights of all our citizens;

Whereas, Senator Anita Bowser has been a staunch and tireless opponent of the death penalty;

Whereas, Senator Bowser has authored legislation which successfully precluded the imposition of the death penalty on mentally retarded persons;

Whereas, Senator Bowser has also authored legislation



which successfully precluded the imposition of the death penalty on individuals less than 18 years of age;

Whereas, in recognition of Senator Bowser's efforts on these issues, the legislature should study the issues surrounding the imposition of the death penalty on mentally ill individuals; Therefore:

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly
of the State of Indiana, the House of Representatives concurring:*

1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana State Senate hereby urges the
2 Legislative Council to assign and direct an interim or statutory
3 committee to study issues pertaining to the imposition of the death
4 penalty on mentally ill individuals.

5 SECTION 2. That the committee, if assigned by Legislative
6 Council, should operate under the direction of the Council and be
7 known as the Bowser Commission.

8 SECTION 3. The Secretary of the Senate is directed to transmit a
9 copy of this resolution to the Legislative Council.

